

A VALUABLE NEW FLORIDA FORAGE PLANT

**C. E. Pleas Makes Successful
Experiment With the
Kudzu Vine.**

**ONE OF THE RICHEST PLANTS
THAT CAN BE GROWN BOTH
FOR HAY AND FOR FERTILIZA-
TION OF SOIL—FLORIDA FARM-
ERS SHOULD BE INTERESTED.**

The following is by Mr. C. E. Pleas,
of Chipley, Fla.:

The question of permanent pasture is a most important one to the southern farmer, for to successfully raise stock he must have permanent pasture of good quality, something better than the native wiregrass, carpet grass or bermuda grass. These are all desirable in the absence of anything better, but all combined fall short of keeping stock in perfect condition throughout the summer and fall, even when stock have free access to an unlimited area.

The time is not far off when the farmer can no longer depend on the public range, and even now it pays to grow most forage in the field. We have for winter pasture oats, rye, etc. Then there are the native grasses for a while in the spring, and the velvet bean for a while in the fall; but there is a gap between that can only be filled by frequent planting and cultivation of various annuals, more or less unsatisfactory.

The forage plant that will tide the farmer and stock raiser over the long, hot, dry summer, as well as the rainy season, will fill a long-felt want.

An Ideal Pasture Plant.
After several years experience with the Kudzu vine (pueraria thurberiana) I find it a most admirable forage for this purpose. What is more, it is perennial; it is one of the first things to start in the spring, and stays by us until after killing frosts.

It is ready to pasture here in West Florida (latitude 31 degrees) by April 1, or even earlier, having the ground thoroughly covered with new growth by that time, and if desired for hay, can be cut May 1, making as much growth by May as the velvet bean makes in an entire season. It comes again quickly after cutting, and in two weeks' time has the ground almost obscured. It is more easily cured than the velvet bean, which it greatly resembles in appearance and manner of growth. But it only needs to be flamed once and watered once a season, taking care of itself after that, and all the owner needs to do is to keep it cut, if wanted for hay, or to turn the stock from one lot to another in pasturing. When divided into three or four lots and pastured in succession, more stock can be supported on a given area than by allowing them full range.

History of the Kudzu.
Kudzu is a native of Japan, and its history in the United States dates back to the centennial Philadelphia, in '76, when it was brought over by the Japs to shade their buildings at the exposition. It serves many purposes in Japan, being used as an ornamental vine as well as a forage. A fine quality of starch and also fiber are made from its roots. It is planted on rocky hillsides and waste places, and land that would be otherwise practically useless is thus made to yield good returns. It has been pointed out that most all the fruits, flowers and other botanical introductions from Japan have proved desirable acquisitions to American agriculture.

The Kudzu vine is no exception and I believe is destined to soon become the most important plant introduced in the south since the advent of cotton. While it has been grown in the United States for over thirty years as an ornamental vine, it remained for me to discover its greatest possibilities as a forage plant for the south. I had secured a few seed from Japan to try it as a shade for our summerhouses on the front lawn. The first year it made only a few feet of growth, but the second year it sent out immense long trailing vines all over the grass, and after the lawn mower had passed over it the large dead leaves looked so bad we decided to get rid of it.

Discovered by Chance.
The next spring, 1904, I grubbed them all out and was going to throw them on the brush pile, but my wife proposed planting them around it. I will see if they would not cover it and add it from view, as it was necessary to receive trimmings from the trees, roses, etc., about the grounds. So three plants were set around it and by the fall of 1905 they had covered a space of about 50x50 feet (all that is available between our garden, barn, drive and neighbors pasture lot) to a depth of 2-1/2 to 3 feet.

It was not until the vines began creeping through the bars to the horse shed and the fence on the neighbor's side that I suspected its value as stock feed. My horse simply got down on his knees, reached under and nipped every leaf that came within two feet of the bars, while the neighbor's horse, when turned into that adjoining lot, would make for the Kudzu vines the first thing and never leave until the last leaf in reach was eaten.

Rich in Nutrition.
I began to investigate. I cut some of it for hay and found it cured much quicker than the velvet bean or cow pea hay, and subsequent experience has proved it retains its bright green color even after exposure to the light and air for a year, and I have never smelled sweeter hay.

I sent a small bale of the hay to the commissioner of agriculture at

Tallahassee for examination and here is what the state chemist, Captain R. E. Rose, says about it, in part:
"Dear Sir—I enclose result of analysis of Japanese Kudzu vine hay. It compares favorably with cowpea and velvet bean hay. Your sample was particularly well cured and put up. Find the analysis of the sample is above the average farm cured hay."

	Starch	Protein	Sugar	Fibre	Fat
Cowpea	16.0	42.20	30.1	2.2	
Velvet Bean	14.7	41.90	29.7	1.70	
Beggarweed	21.7	30.20	24.7	2.30	
Kudzu	16.50	32.81	40.09	1.68	

"The analysis shows a little better than cowpeas or velvet bean, but not quite so good as the beggarweed."

"Yours, etc.,
"R. E. ROSE."

Nature and Growth, Etc.
Thus it will be seen that the Kudzu is second in point of feed value, and when we consider its many other good qualities, it stands easily at the head of the list.

As stated before, it is perennial and closely resembles the velvet bean (belonging to the same great order of plants, Leguminosa), but one planting and cultivating the first season serves for a lifetime, if desired.

Stock do not seriously injure the vines by trampling on them, as with the velvet bean, and even if they do, the vines having rooted where touching the ground, quickly put out new growth. It does not have to be cut at any certain time, as with most forage, but the earlier it is cut, and the oftener, the more hay it will produce. It seems best adapted as a pasture, however, as one would experience the same trouble in harvesting as with the velvet bean. Yet I have cut some heavy crops of the beans very successfully with both one and two horse mowers, and while I have not grown the Kudzu to the extent of cutting with a mower, I see no reason why it should not be as easily cut and harvested, if not left until the vines get old and woody and rooted to the ground.

Other Uses.
It has been suggested by high authority that this vine might prove of inestimable value in reclaiming the "barren" fields of the south, as well as preventing washes on the clay hill-sides, as its roots penetrate the soil to a great depth in all directions, and the vines, taking root at the joints, are enabled to catch the drift on top and hold the soil beneath.

One is to judge its powers as a soil renovator or nitrogen gatherer from the number of bacteria nodules that form on rootlets at certain stages of their growth. I have never seen its equal. The portion of a root shown in the accompanying cut bore 250 nodules, by actual count, and is but an average specimen, while I had on exhibition at Tampa and Jacksonville this last winter, specimens showing upwards of two thousand of these nodules to the plant no larger than the one here shown.

Propagation and Planting.
The Kudzu produces numerous clusters of deliciously fragrant blossoms of brilliant purple, much in the same manner as the wistaria, but so far as known it never seeds in America, and is propagated by means of the rooted joints, set six to ten feet apart, and kept cultivated till the vines reach out and prevent it.

Just how far north it will succeed as it does here in Florida, remains to be tested, though it is hardy as far up as Nova Scotia. Here it merely sheds its leaves in cold weather, the matured vines living over.

The Kudzu seems to be adapted to any soil, rich or poor, wet or dry, though the richer the land the better it will succeed. When I bought my land eleven years ago it would not make over five bushels of corn per acre, it was so worn out and run down, being one of the oldest pieces in cultivation here. Since I got it, it has not enough fertilizer, all told (on the part where the vine is located), to make one generous application, and yet the Kudzu appears to be on rich land, and I cut thirty pounds of dry hay from a space 15x15 feet last July, and in two weeks after it was nearly knee deep again. Vines from a mature plant have made the enormous growth of 28 feet in two weeks' time with half a dozen side branches, some of them 12 feet long, and yet that land has never been broken or cultivated in any way since years before the three plants were stuck out and allowed to fight their way among weeds and briars.

Bales of the hay and specimen roots and vines were on exhibition at the Gulf Coast and Florida State fairs the last two years, as well as at the Jamestown and Jacksonville exhibitions, and did not fail to cause wide-spread interest wherever shown. I find that plants can be set out almost any time of the year. I put out an acre in the winter (my only available space, as I am in town), and many of the plants had vines 10 feet long April 1, though I expected it to take them another year to get established.

I have been asked by many if it can be got rid of, and if it doesn't become a pest. To this I answer, plant it where it can stay, and you will never want to get rid of it so long as there is a good market for stock. A small patch plowed under last fall has only shown one or two plants this season.

A SMILE
is a pretty hard thing to accomplish when you're blue, bilious and out of sorts. There is a sure cure for all kinds of stomach and liver complaints—constipation and dyspepsia. Ballard's Herbine is mild, yet it is a sure cure in all cases. Price 50 cents per bottle.

Sold and recommended by W. A. D'Alembert, druggist and apothecary, 121 South Palafox street, Pensacola, Fla.

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St. Phone 854.

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THE PLUMS FOR THIS WEEK ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY and TUESDAY

Domestic Pongees, 35c quality for 27c. These goods have that rich luster of real silk, are exceptionally cool and especially adapted for warm weather costumes.

Side Band and Bordered Batiste, this season's latest novelties, in a beautiful range of patterns, 15c.

One lot German Linen Table Damask, bleached and cream, 60 and 65c qualities, for 49c.

Ladies' White Duck Skirts, trimmed, self folds, 98c.

Extra Special—One lot slightly soiled Wash Skirts at half price.

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at greatly reduced prices. See Saturday's papers.

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in our Shoe Department

we will put on a big sale of Ladies', Misses' and Children's White Canvas Oxfords, Pumps and Ties. Watch the daily papers for sensational prices on these goods.

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We will offer you some especially attractive prices on Men's and Boys' Low Shoes. Read our advertisements. It means money to you.

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NEWS FORECAST FOR THE CURRENT WEEK

Special to The Journal.
New York, May 30.—Among the important news events scheduled for the coming week are the following:

Monday.
Commencement week exercises at United States Naval Academy will begin at Annapolis.
Annual session of Naval War College conference begins at Newport, R. I.

"Employment day" will be observed in St. Louis by order of National Prosperity Association.
General state election will be held in Oregon, when a single tax measure will be passed on and local option elections held in eighteen counties.
Thousands of physicians will gather in Chicago for fifty-ninth annual meeting of American Medical Association.

Brotherhood of Boiler-makers and Iron Shipbuilders meet in St. Paul.
Annual rose festival and civic jubilee begins in Portland, Ore., and will continue through the week.
City of Kingston, N. Y., will celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding.

Regular annual conference of National Florence Crittenton Mission begins in Detroit.
Charlemagne Tower will be succeeded as American ambassador at Berlin by Dr. David J. Hill.
Mexican Exhibition scheduled to open in Crystal Palace, London.

Tuesday.
Republican National Committee will convene in Chicago to consider contests for seats.

Cotton crop report of the bureau of statistics, department of agriculture, will be made public at noon.

Independent Order of Good Templars, international lodge, convenes in Washington.
International Convention of Chiefs of Police opens in Detroit.
National Wholesale Grocers' Association convenes in Atlantic City, N. J.

Wednesday.
Centennial anniversary of birth of Jefferson Davis will be celebrated by Confederate veterans throughout the South.

Second parade of Pennsylvania Avenue Association will take place in Philadelphia.
Presbyterian Church in Canada meets in general assembly at Winnipeg, Man.

Thursday.
Primaries to select delegates to the Democratic national convention and to nominate state officers and a candidate for United States senate will be held in Georgia.

Association of Employed Officers of the Young Men's Christian Association of North America will meet in Atlantic City.

Friday.
King Edward will start for Russia, on the royal yacht, and will meet the czar in the Baltic.

National convention of the Young Women's Christian Association will open in Asheville, N. C.

Saturday.
Power boat race from North Carolina to Bermuda, a distance of 650 miles, will start from New York.

Two Women, One of Whom is to be "First Lady of Land"

Mrs. William H. Taft, And
Mrs. William J. Bryan—
Both Will Look Exceptionally
Well in Such a
Setting as the White
House at Washington

Special to The Journal.
Washington, May 30.—With the presidential choice apparently narrowed down to Taft and Bryan, women of Washington's social set are busily wagging their tongues in discussion of the interesting subject as to who will be the successor of Mrs. Roosevelt as the "first lady of the land." While Mrs. Taft is naturally better known in Washington society than the wife of the Nebraskaan, and is a great favorite here, the latter has many friends and "boosters" among the women of the national capital. In this favoritism there is very little of politics, the adherents of both Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Bryan basing their argument on social grounds.

To the unprejudiced observer, there is little to choose between these two candidates for the position as mistress of the White House. Both are charming, cultured and democratic women, fully competent to play the difficult part of White House hostess. While Mrs. Taft has had a wider experience in social affairs than Mrs. Bryan, the natural tact of the latter is such as to make her equal to any situation.

If fate should hit upon William H. Taft as the nation's choice for president, the White House women will have the loveliest sort of a chateaulaine. Mrs. Taft can laugh as readily as her husband, if not so loudly. She sees fun in everything and has a sunniness of disposition which helps a lot in her career in Washington's cosmopolitan environs. She is an accomplished musician; not a "piano player" of the seminary type, but a student who has devoted hours to the mastery of technique and months to the labor of biographical reading and the study of the history and theory of the art. She carries with her a trophy presented to her by the musicians and music lovers of Cincinnati in recognition of her disinterested work in the promotion of music and music study in that city.

Next to Mrs. James A. Garfield, Mrs. Taft is the youngest lady of the Cabinet. She loses no opportunity to aid by means of many social graces which have been given her the aspirations of her distinguished husband. Mrs. Taft is a believer in higher education for women, and her eldest daughter is a student at Bryn Mawr. Mrs. Taft takes great delight and pride in the progress of her children and is always ready to give them the assistance of which she is fully capable.

She is past master in the gentle art of the "little supper," and that she can meet all comers with a ready grace was demonstrated last summer on the occasion of Secretary Taft's reception to the officers of the visiting fleet of foreign warships at Hampton Roads, China, Italy, Japan, France and Germany had representatives among the sailormen. Italy's king sent his cousin, the duke of Abruzzi. Japan sent her war heroes and the personnel of every embassy and legation in the city congregated with resident and official society in the great ballroom, at the head of which stood Mrs. Taft, looking girlish in her radiance as she gave a word of greeting to each guest.

Mrs. Taft's receptions are among the most popular in Washington. She is a graceful, easy-mannered hostess, as well as a charming woman in every way. Much travel, in which she delights, has supplied her with a fund of anecdote which is never exhausted, and upon which she draws freely as a means of entertainment. She is also devoted to reading and is altogether a very intellectual woman. Mrs. Taft is perhaps less interested in the actual domestic part of her home than some of the other ladies who are her rivals for the occupancy of the White

House. In social graces she excels however, and is cordial and earnest in her manner to a degree which makes her very popular.

Should the finger of destiny point out William Jennings Bryan as the next occupant of the White House, the home of the presidents would open its doors to a woman no less picturesque than her husband. Mrs. Bryan has stood side by side with Mr. Bryan in both of his campaigns. She has toured the country with him, has helped him by word and deed. She has studied economics, history, finance and kept up with the trend of current affairs of the larger colonies. She is one woman who can intelligently discuss politics and no less intelligently conduct her home. She is an expert typist and has a ready wit, supplemented by a cordial, gentle manner and a sympathetic smile. As first lady of the land she would strike a new note and one rather difficult for society, as it comes and goes, to key itself up to.

Mrs. Bryan is a woman of rare accomplishments but simple tastes. Educated in Monticello Seminary and the Presbyterian Seminary at Jacksonville, Ill., she was not satisfied with the knowledge thus acquired and took a post-graduate course. It was while taking this course at Jacksonville that she met her future husband. They became engaged, but were not married until four years later. During this interval she took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar of Illinois. This knowledge of law has proved of great assistance both to her and to Mr. Bryan. Mrs. Bryan was the daughter of John Baird and Laura Dexter Baird, the latter the daughter of Colonel Darius Dexter, of Dexterville, N. Y. She was born in Perry, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan lived for three years at Jacksonville before moving to Lincoln, Neb.

Essentially a home-loving woman, Mrs. Bryan is a member of but two local clubs in Lincoln. She is fond of her flowers and one of her fads is the raising of chickens. She is also fond of sports and plays an excellent game of tennis or golf and can ride or drive. An exercise of which she is very fond is swimming. Her saddle horse is a fine Arabian mare. The home life of the Bryans is simple and unassuming. During the construction of their new house at Fairview they lived for several months in a building constructed as a stable.

CARD OF THANKS.

While thanking my friends for their liberal and cordial support in the first primary, I now request one and all to be equally as liberal in their support on June 16th, next, at the second primary.

Lacking only a few votes of having a clear majority over both of my opponents at the first, I feel assured of a majority at the second primary, that will be large enough to be convincing.

With my friends on the alert from now until the close of the polls on June 16th, there will be no doubt about the result.

N. B. COOK,
County Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Real Estate Transfers.

Transfers recorded yesterday as furnished by the Real Estate Abstract Co.:

James England to Jno. N. Day, \$1 and other good and valuable considerations; lot 10 in Block 131, New City tract.

J. W. Bullock, Jr., to J. E. Baars, \$1 and other valuable considerations, south 35 feet of east 135 feet of arpent lot 84 and north 5 feet of east 135 feet of arpent lot 83, old City tract.

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